

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION Shepard Building 255 Westminster Street Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

July 23, 2019

TO: Members of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education

FROM: Angélica Infante-Green, Commissioner

RE: Approval of the Proposed Certification Expiration Date Change

In 2017, the RIDE certification staff and leadership participated in a Lean event to find efficiencies in the operations of the certification of educators. One recommendation identified at that time was a shift in the expiration date for certificates by one month in order to provide additional time to complete renewal requests prior to the beginning of a school year. RIDE proposed a change to July 30 as part of the proposed regulations changes to certification in 2018. RIDE discussed this change during stakeholder sessions and Council meetings. However, since the expiration date requires Council approval, but is not regulatory, RIDE is now requesting approval for this date change.

The Commissioner recommends that the certificate expiration date change from August 31 to July 30. Changing the date would provide greater time between the certificate expiration date and the start of the school year. RIDE would continue to send 180-day and 90-day reminder notices to all educators whose certificates are expiring.

This date change would take effect for all certificates issued beginning January 1, 2020.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education approve expiration date change to make it July 31 for all certificates issued beginning January 1, 2020.